

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1947

TO THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ROMNEY MARSH.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors:-

The Area of the District is 31,031 acres.

The Resident Population was 3,740

The number of inhabited houses at the end of the year 1947,
according to the Rate Books was: 1,437.

The Rateable Value was £20,186

The sum represented by a 1d. rate was £75.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
<u>LIVE BIRTHS:-</u> Legitimate ...	29	29	58
Illegitimate ...	1	2	3
	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>61</u>

This gives a Birth Rate of 16.84 per 1000 of the estimated
resident population.

The Birth Rate for England and Wales was:- 20.5

Birth Rates for the past five years:-

		Romney Marsh	England & Wales
1943	...	13.48	16.50
1944	...	20.32	17.60
1945	...	15.35	16.10
1946	...	18.44	19.10
1947	...	16.84	20.50
	Average	<u>16.88</u>	<u>17.96</u>

There were no still Births.

Deaths:-	Males	Females	Total
	<u>22</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>47</u>

This gives a Death Rate of 12.82 per 1000 of the estimated population.
The Death Rate For England & Wales was:- 12.00
Death Rate for the last five years:-

		Romney Marsh	England & Wales
1943	...	9.24	12.10
1944	...	14.85	11.60
1945	...	12.13	11.40
1946	...	13.63	11.50
1947	...	12.82	12.00
	Average:	<u>12.53</u>	<u>11.72</u>

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:- 2 Females (legitimate)

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	-7
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

Deaths from Tuberculosis -3

The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year:-

Whooping Cough	8
Scarlet Fever	3
Measles	75
Jaundice	1
Infective Hepatitis	1

I am, Ladies & Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,

J.N.D. O'Rafferty

October, 1948.

ANNUAL REPORT OF BUILDING SURVEYOR AND SANITARY INSPECTOR

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen.

I have the honour to submit my first Annual Report for 1947.

From the undermentioned data and statistics, some idea of what has been carried out by this Department can be gathered.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. WATER SUPPLY.

The Water Supply in this area is by -

- (a) The Littlestone & District Water Company. Parishes of Dymchurch and St. Mary's.
- (b) The Mid Kent Water Company. Remaining 7 parishes.
- (c) Application is being made for further extensions in the inland area.

2. SEWERS

The only existing Public Sewer is small portion about one mile in the old part of Dymchurch. This discharges into Marshland Outfall on the foreshore.

Discussion took place with the Kent Rivers Catchment Board re disposal of treated effluent from a proposed new Sewage Farm.

Extension of Sewage Scheme adopted.

3. PUBLIC CLEANSING

Cesspools are emptied in Dymchurch and St. Mary's Bay free of charge. In other parishes only urgent cesspools are dealt with by the R.D.C., otherwise they are emptied by private firms.

House Refuse is cleared from Dymchurch once a week: St. Mary's Bay once every two weeks.

4. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

<u>Premises inspected.</u>	<u>No. of inspections.</u>
<u>Accumulation found</u>	2
<u>Animals Kept.</u>	
(a) Piggeries	3
(b) Stables	4
(c) Fowls, pigeons, etc.	16
<u>Complaints.</u>	
Total number investigated. (All premises)	59
<u>Dairies</u>	
Cowsheds	60
Dairies	12
Milk Shops	4
<u>Disinfection.</u>	
Number of houses disinfected	6
Number of other buildings disinfected	...
<u>Disinfestation</u>	
Number of houses	2
Number of other premises	...
<u>Drainage</u>	
Number of drains found choked.	36
-do- defective	10
-do- tested	39



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No. of Inspections.Dwelling Houses

Number of Inspections re Repairs	38
Re-inspections	20
Number inspected Re overcrowding	2
Number found dirty	10
Number found verminous	2

Infectious Diseases.

Visits re scarlet fever	4
" " Diptheria	...
" " other diseases	2

Factories

With mechanised power	...
Without " "	...
Bakehouses	20

Food Premises.

Butchers' Shops or Stalls	51
Preparation of Potted Meat etc.	12
Fruiterers	14
Fishmongers and Fried Fish Shops	8
Restaurants or Cafe Kitchens	55
Samples of Milk taken for Bacteriological Examination.	
Satisfactory	22
Unsatisfactory	2

Miscellaneous Visits.

Number of visits not otherwise classified	43
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Building Byelaws.

75

Shops Act.

21

Tents, Vans, Sheds etc.

53

Water Supply

General	30
Water samples taken (Chem.)	1
" " " (Bact.)	6

5. Rodent Control

Inspections made	710
Infestations dealt with April to December.	47
Estimated Mice killed	308
Actual Mice bodies found	51
Estimated Rats killed	1023
Actual Rat bodies found	174

6. RURAL HOUSING SURVEY

Approximate number of houses to be surveyed	1433
Number of houses surveyed to the 30th September 1947.	1405
Number of houses placed in Category 1.	755
-do- " 2.	233
-do- " 3.	260
-do- " 4.	99
-do- " 5.	58

The Council have a Comprehensive Post War Housing Programme to house in particular Agricultural Workers. At the 31st December, 1947 the under-mentioned were completed and occupied.

Council Houses. (Post war to 31st December 1947).

Swedish	16
Traditional (3 Bedroom Type)	16
Total	32

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MILK SUPPLY

There are 3 T.T. herds and 2 Accredited in the area. The Register contains in all 23 Producers and 9 Retail Distributors. The major Retail distribution is carried out by one private firm and inducement has been given to install a Modern Pasteurisation Plant.

MEAT AND OTHER FOOD

The following is a list of foodstuffs condemned as unfit for human consumption during 1947 -

Corned beef	12 lbs.
Corned Mutton	12 lbs.
Pigs Heads	50 lbs.
Tins of Milk	12
Kippers	10 stone
Bacon	14 lbs.

ICE CREAM

Three Producers Licensed and samples taken - 12, which were found to be satisfactory.

BUILDING LICENCES

Total of £100388, numbering 520 licences, have been dealt with.

PLANS

Number of Plans submitted to this Council during the year was 147.

MORTUARY

Number of bodies	7.
Number of Post Mortems	2.

CAMPING SITES.

Only three Licenced Camping Sites are now in the area, reducing existing sites.

Extra Water Supply, Proper Sanitary Accommodation with storage of Refuse has been asked for next season.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

T. Hope

Church Approach.

November, 1948.

